

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SPECIALIST

MILWAUKEE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

THE PURPOSE of this position is to reduce the spread of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and promote the health of persons affected by such diseases through aggressive public outreach. Incumbent will utilize scientific public health principles, facilitate collaborative efforts, and provide independent counseling and referral services to individuals at a high risk of transmitting aforementioned diseases. Affected clients primarily include STD/HIV infected persons, their sex partners, and populations at high risk for STD/HIV infection. Clients may include difficult to reach populations such as injection drug users, homeless persons, sex industry workers, transgender and inter-sexed persons, and clients whose primary language is not English.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Providing the following services to affected clients:

- ◆ Health education
- ◆ Risk reduction counseling
- ◆ STD, HIV, and TB screening
- ◆ Assistance in notifying sexual and needle-sharing partners
- ◆ Referral services for medical care

Surveying, detecting, reporting, and intervening with persons affected by HIV/STD and their contacts:

- ◆ Contact affected and potentially affected clients who have been exposed to HIV/STD with the intent to interview and provide education, prevention information, risk reduction counseling, and referral services
- ◆ Independently initiate, maintain, and complete comprehensive STD/HIV infection case reports
- ◆ Conduct STD/HIV clinical testing procedures including antibody testing and rapid HIV testing analyses
- ◆ Conduct TB related PPD skin tests
- ◆ Counsel clients regarding test results and recommended follow up
- ◆ Provide non-English speaking clients with access to culturally and linguistically appropriate resources

Educating, training and acting as a consultant to health agencies and community groups:

- ◆ Educate and train local health care providers on STD/HIV case detection, intervention techniques, policies and procedures, quality assurance standards, and data collection tools
- ◆ Co-facilitate annual training for new STD/HIV workers and present at regional meetings
- ◆ Advise health providers / laboratories on recent developments and the implementation of STD and HIV-related testing, counseling, and diagnostic and treatment services
- ◆ Facilitate presentations and workshops on topics closely related to STD/HIV to multidisciplinary community groups
- ◆ Participate in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of STD/HIV prevention demonstrations and research projects directed at persons at risk for STD/HIV infection and their sexual and needle-sharing partners and other social contacts
- ◆ Represent the City of Milwaukee Health Department by participating in local and statewide task forces and committees, advisory groups, and professional organizations focused on systems of STD/HIV care and prevention services
- ◆ Assist with the development / evaluation of educational materials and STD/HIV resources / programs that focus on STD/HIV prevention and individual risk reduction

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

1. Bachelor's Degree in Public Health, Health Education or other closely related field from an accredited college or university.

Note: equivalent combinations of experience and education may also be considered.

2. Valid Driver's license and availability of a properly insured vehicle at the time of appointment and throughout employment (car allowance provided).
3. Successful completion of "Introduction to STD Intervention" course within 6 months of appointment.
4. Residency in the City of Milwaukee within 6 months of appointment and throughout employment.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Two years of experience performing duties closely related to the essential functions above.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Ability to promote health and prevent disease in the community
- Knowledge of STD/HIV prevention principles and strategies
- Knowledge of Epidemiology
- Knowledge of clinical and laboratory procedures
- Knowledge of STD/HIV case management principles and procedures
- Knowledge of community organizations and agencies related to HIV/AIDS and STDs
- Ability to maintain confidentiality with client information
- Ability to obtain blood and oral specimens for testing purposes
- Ability to read and interpret skin tests (tuberculosis testing)
- Ability to assess issues related to substance abuse and mental health for the purpose of determining appropriate referrals
- Ability to work collaboratively with a multi-cultural community
- Ability to show respect towards, and maintain sensitivity to, alternative and diverse lifestyles
- Ability to communicate diplomatically and tactfully with clients who are emotional and/or agitated
- Assertiveness skills
- Customer service skills
- Analytical skills
- Interpersonal skills
- Organizational skills
- Oral communication skills
- Written communication skills
- Ability to work in a team environment
- Ability to establish a great deal of rapport with clients
- Presentation skills

THE CURRENT SALARY (530) IS: \$39,094 - \$44,257 (2006 rates) annually with excellent benefits. Appointment is normally at the beginning of the salary range.